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Docket No.: 4495-095

PATENT

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A simple fastening device, that comprising:
 - (1) has a structure wherein
 - (a) a lock piece is forced by a spring to engage with an axial member in a case, and
 - (b) when the axial member is inserted into the case, the lock piece moves back from the axial member,
 - (c) later, the lock piece is engaged with the axial member so as to be fastened with the axial member; and
- (2) centains a releasing member that is jointed together with the lock piece in such a way that the releasing member is provided in the case so as to move linearly so as to release the lock piece from fastening, thereby releasing the lock piece from the axial member.
- 2. (Currently Amended) A <u>The simple</u> fastening device described in [[C]] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein
- (1) said releasing member can move linearly in the direction perpendicular to the insertion direction of the axial member, and
- (2) said spring forces the releasing member to move in the direction perpendicular to the insertion direction of the axial member, so that said spring forces the lock piece to engage with the axial member via the releasing member.

- 3. (Currently Amended) A <u>The simple</u> fastening device described in [[C]] <u>claim 1</u> or 2, wherein
- (1) guide grooves that extend in the direction perpendicular to the insertion direction of the axial member are formed on the outer surface of the case,
- (2) the releasing member has guide arms that slide in the guide grooves, and
- (3) the guide arms and the lock piece are jointed together by means of a pin.
- 4. (Currently Amended) A <u>The simple</u> fastening device described in any one of [[C]] claims 1 to 3, wherein
- (1) the case has a slope that extends away from the axial member in the insertion direction of the axial member, and
- (2) there are formed in the case (a) a tapered section on which the lock pieces slide, and (b) a supporting wall that faces the tapered section and supports the outer surface of the axial member with which the lock pieces engage.
- 5. (New) The fastening device described in claim 2, wherein
- (1) guide grooves that extend in the direction perpendicular to the insertion direction of the axial member are formed on the outer surface of the case,
- (2) the releasing member has guide arms that slide in the guide grooves, and
- (3) the guide arms and the lock piece are jointed together by means of a pin.
- 6. (New) The fastening device described in claims 2, wherein
- (1) the case has a slope that extends away from the axial member in the insertion direction of the axial member, and

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(2) there are formed in the case (a) a tapered section on which the lock pieces slide, and (b) a supporting wall that faces the tapered section and supports the outer surface of the axial member, with which the lock pieces engage.

- 7. (New) The fastening device described in claim 3, wherein
- (1) the case has a slope that extends away from the axial member in the insertion direction of the axial member, and
- (2) there are formed in the case (a) a tapered section on which the lock pieces slide, and (b) a supporting wall that faces the tapered section and supports the outer surface of the axial member with which the lock pieces engage.